



WSP

Region II

Team Leader

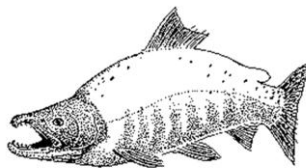
San Luis Obispo





Watershed Stewards Project Mission

The mission of the AmeriCorps Watershed Stewards Project is to conserve, restore, and enhance anadromous watersheds for future generations by linking education with high quality scientific practices.



Sockeye Salmon



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Welcome!

Welcome to a unique and rewarding experience. As a WSP Team Leader, many professional development opportunities and experiences will be available. Interest in this position shows a deep commitment to the watershed restoration community at large. A team leader will most likely develop a deeper connection with the community while exploring the gifts waiting bestowed upon the team leader by the many enthusiastic people encountered. Do not get discouraged or overwhelmed. Ask questions. Be honest about expectations and goals during this time. Most importantly, have fun.

WSP: The Real Lowdown

WSP is a project of the California Conservation Corps (CCC). Details and logistics will be learned very soon. But here's the *real* lowdown! AmeriCorps is awesome! Over the next ten and a half months, there will be so many opportunities to do so many positive things, not only for the country, community and environment, but for personal and professional growth as well.

Site Description

Location 1530 Madera Avenue San Luis Obispo, CA 93401

Mailing PO Box 1380, San Luis Obispo, CA 93406

Agency Affiliation Watershed Stewards Project Program Office; CCC San Luis Obispo

General Ecology Recently declared one of the happiest places on Earth to live, San Luis Obispo boasts a range of environmental attractions and ecological resources. The San Luis Obispo Steelhead Initiative, as a collaborative effort among multiple local agencies, lives and works in four separate central coast watersheds: the Morro Bay, San Luis Obispo Creek, Arroyo Grande Creek, and Pismo Creek watersheds. The central Coast Ranges in the area support Mediterranean Forest, Woodland, and Scrub eco-regions. The cities in which SLOSI operate in are subject to foggy and rainy coastal weather.

Mentor Bio

Jody Weseman is currently the Project Manager for the Watershed Stewards Project Region II (based in San Luis Obispo, CA). Jody Weseman holds a Bachelors of Science in Recreation, Parks, and Tourism Administration from Cal Poly State University.

Jody was born and raised in rural Minnesota but moved west at age eighteen to seek diversity, nature, and adventure. She spent six years working on backcountry trail crew, volunteering for backcountry ski patrol and search and rescue in Yosemite National Park. She spent one summer commercial fishing Kodiak Island, AK and many winters traveling through developing nations. She is an alumnus of two different AmeriCorps programs and has worked as a supervisor in three different programs of the California Conservation Corps.

Jody has worked for *Wilderness Ventures* and the *American River Conservancy* leading volunteer trips to Costa Rica and throughout California's Sierra Mountains. While at Cal Poly, Jody coordinated the Alternative Breaks Service Program leading service trips to New Orleans and New York City, recruiting student volunteers, and coordinating trip logistics. Jody's favorite mantra is to "give more than take"!



MAP OF MAJOR WATERSHEDS IN SLO COUNTY





WSP SERVICE YEAR 19 (2012-2013)

1-5 Member Orientation
6 Blue Card Training
8-9 Team Leader Training
27 Make a Difference Day

OCTOBER						
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APRIL						
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8-12 Spring Training
20-22 / 21-27 Global youth service day/ National Volunteer Week
21-22 Santa Barbara Earth Day Festival (Mandatory outreach event Region II-South)
28-29 Fisherman's Festival Bodega Bay (Mandatory outreach event Region II-North)

12 Veteran's Day Observed
22-23 Thanksgiving Holiday
27 Member Conference Call

NOVEMBER						
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1 Tributary Tribune Due (Region II North)
2 WSP Advisory Committee Meeting
27 Memorial Day Holiday
28 Member Conference Call

4-5 Regional Training
11 Strategic Planning Day
12 Advisory Committee Meeting
25 Christmas Holiday

DECEMBER						
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17-21 WSP Summer Training
28 Member Applications Due

1 New Year's Holiday
21 Martin Luther King Day
29 Member Conference Call

JANUARY						
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1 Tributary Tribune Due (Region II South)
4th of July Holiday
20 Coastal Discovery Fair – San Simeon (Mandatory outreach event Region II-South)
30 Member Conference Call

11-12 Healdsburg Salmon Fest (Mandatory outreach event Region II-North)
18 Presidents Day Holiday

FEBRUARY						
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7-9 Exit Process
9 Member Recognition Ceremony/
Member Last Day of Service

1 Tributary Tribune Due (Region I South)
12 Strategic Planning Meeting
13-16 SRF Annual Conference
26 Member Conference Call
31 Cesar Chavez Day

MARCH						
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SEPTEMBER						
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2 Labor Day Holiday



Events Requiring WSP Team Leader Special Participation

<i>Date</i>	<i>Name of Event</i>
October	Year 19 Orientation; Blue Card Training; Team Leader Training; Make Difference Day (Nat'l Service)
November	Member Conference Call
December	Regional Training; Strategic Planning Day; Advisory Committee Meeting
January	MLK Jr Day (Nat'l Service); Member Conference Call; Supervision of Real Science
February	Healdsburg Salmon Festival; Supervision of Real Science
March	Strategic Planning Meeting; SRF Annual Conference; Cesar Chavez Day (Nat'l Service); Supervision of Real Science
April	Spring Training; National Volunteer Week/Global Youth Service Day (Nat'l Service); Santa Barbara Earth Day Festival; Fisherman's Festival Bodega Bay; Supervision of Real Science
May	Advisory Board Committee Meeting; Member Conference Call; Supervision of Real Science
June	Summer Training
July	Coastal Discovery Fair; Member Conference Call
August	Member Recognition Ceremony



Description of Site Duties

*General Team
Leader Duties*

Real Science Program Coordination (20%)

- Organize K-12 *Real Science* and episodic presentations by contacting teachers, placing members in classrooms, collecting program metrics, and training new members in classrooms for the first time.
- Assist members in curriculum implementation, classroom management, and curriculum development.
- Manage and track member's education commitments in an Access database.
- Manage/track community education requests of WSP and member commitments.
- Conduct in-class observations and provide written feedback to at least ½ of your assigned members. Maintain and update the coaching/evaluation form.
- Update a check-out system for education materials and distribute them to members for use in the classroom.
- Update all curriculum/materials including, but not limited to: Education Handbooks, Education Bins, WSP Education Room and Library.
- Collect, track, aggregate, and report on all education-related data (Education Logs, Pre-Post-Test Tally Summaries) for tri-annual AmeriCorps Automated Progress Reports (APRs). Region II Office: forward all hard copies to Region I office.
- Work in partnership with the California Conservation Corps AmeriCorps Vista member on a series of educational presentations for CCC corps members.
- Conduct one series of Real Science (first year member requirement only).
- Field-test new curriculum in K-12 *Real Science* sessions.

Program Outreach (25%)

- Act as lead WSP representative for outreach events such as: mandatory regional outreach events, environmental education fairs and National Service days.
- Assist with various WSP recruitment opportunities, such as career and volunteer fairs.
- Actively seek out and coordinate new community outreach opportunities throughout the program year, with special emphasis on targeting underserved populations.
- Compile and review member's Tributary Tribune submissions.
- Collect and organize all outreach paperwork and maintain the outreach tracking log.



Volunteer Outreach (15%)

- Attend all Individual Service Projects (ISPs) within the Team Leader's specific region.
- Assist members in ISP development including: volunteer recruitment, media outreach, completion of necessary paperwork, and by providing help with pre-ISP checklist, ISP script suggestions, and general check-in prior to the event.
- Provide member feedback including: reviewing post-event evaluations, and sending ISP debriefing questions to the member two or three days after the event.
- Collect and organize all ISP paperwork for all member-led events.
- Participate in local service and volunteer networks as a WSP representative, including attendance at committee meetings and coordinating with regional programs to collaborate National Service Day events (e.g., MDD, MLK Jr. Day, and Life After Service Conference).
- Region I Team Leaders: Work together to facilitate the organization of three Adopt-a-Highway clean-ups throughout the year.

Program Support (25%)

- Assist in planning and conducting WSP mandatory trainings (Regional, Spring, Summer), conferences and National Service Days.
- Assist with photo documentation at all WSP events.
- Maintain WSP outreach and education PowerPoints.
- Edit information on the WSP website as directed.
- Serve as member representative to the WSP Advisory Committee by attending semi-annual meetings, and presenting position-specific program updates.

Member Development (15%)

- Attend environmental education/outreach trainings opportunities to learn various education techniques (i.e. AEOE regional conferences, CSTA conferences).
- Attend SRF trainings such as: Annual Conference, SRF Chinook Symposium and Coho Confab.

Additional opportunities (time permitting): Participate in regional placement site field work projects of interest.



Education Information

<i>Regional Training</i>	Team leaders plan and facilitate Regional Training for members. The training is meant to give hands-on experience on outreach and education activities and mental preparedness for the members' Real Science.
<i>The School List</i>	WSP has its own education database with information from all the schools that had <i>Real Science</i> . Very few schools will be listed from the Southern Region since the program is relatively new in the region.
<i>Mailings</i>	Responsible for contacting and mailing/faxing solicitation packets to schools near each placement site for <i>Real Science</i> .
<i>New Schools</i>	Recruit new classes/teachers each year for members who need assistance. WSP program has only been around for a year or two for most of the placement sites in the Region II. Some members may choose to be completely independent in picking their schools.
<i>New Curriculum</i>	Develop new curriculum following WSP's mission and guidelines (i.e. must be related to salmon/trout). All education must relate to the goals stated in WSP grants.
<i>Assigning Classes</i>	Assign classrooms to members for <i>Real Science</i> if members request assistance.
<i>Re-Stocking Ed Supplies</i>	Region II has its own Education Supply room. Ensure all education materials and lesson activities are fully stocked and in working order (i.e. clean, complete, and functional). Life cycle pageant costume sets are available as well. The team leader may create new materials. The Team Leader is also responsible for maintaining a checkout system through Google Docs.
<i>Education Handbook</i>	Every site should have an Education Handbook. The handbook is resource for WSP members filled with lesson plans and activities on watersheds, salmon life cycle, water cycle, land use and management, and much more.
<i>Fish for Dissections</i>	SLO WSP Office will be receiving fish from Fillmore Hatchery in southeast Ventura County. The Education Team Leader will be the main contact, but responsibilities for procuring the fish may be passed on to members closer to the hatchery.
<i>Trout in the Classroom</i>	A DFG program where students raise salmon or trout eggs into fry in a classroom aquarium. The Real Science education program correlates particularly well with this program. In San Luis Obispo, Central Coast Salmon Enhancement facilitates this program. In Santa Cruz, the program is facilitated by STEP, Salmon and Trout Education Program.
<i>Pre/Post Tallies</i>	Collect the Pre-Post-Test Tally Sheets filled out by members after the members finish their <i>Real Science</i> . Afterward, the members will e-mail the results directly to the Education Team Leader within 1 week of completion. Remind members to ensure that all students who take the pre-test also take the post-test, and that their signatures are legible. The actual tests must be received as back-up documentation for program funders.



*Perception
Surveys*

Given to all teachers regardless of number of visits. The members then mail them directly to their Education Team Leader within 1 week of completion. Look them over! They give valuable info on how members are doing in the classroom.

*Teacher
Contracts*

These need to be signed by the member and teacher. The contracts help ensure member protection and are useful if a scheduling or other teacher/classroom related problem arise. Keep a record of all the teacher's names/locations for future reference.

*Child Abuse
Reporting Law*

Members must sign form for each new school year. This should be done at Regional Training. The forms are file in the WSP Fortuna office. The form binds members to report any suspected or known child abuse. They can be recycled at the end of the year when all education is done.

*Educator
Interest Form*

Forms must be filled out by teachers and returned to the respective Team Leader.

Site / Region Specific Education Resources

For the Team Leader, all education resources available will be onsite! The storage and creation of the education support system for WSP occurs in the office. The team leader will have access to multiple books and handouts collected throughout the years along with electronic documents held in a share drive. Having all the resources available at hand creates the best place to explore every avenue possible when it comes to education support. The Project Manager has tons of experience and advice as well as sincere words of encouragement when it comes to the Team Leader's responsibility in maintaining a proficient education base for all members, including the Team Leader.

*The World Wide
Web*

There are quite a few cool salmon related sites that will help supplement educational ideas:

<http://www.fws.gov/pacific/publications/salmonbk.pdf>

<http://www.salmonnation.com/>

<http://www.thinksalmon.com/>

*Other
Educational
Resources*

California Regional Environmental Education Center (CREEC) Calendar
<http://creec.edgateway.net/cs/creecp/cal/68?x-layout=cal>

*Benefits of the
position*

All Team Leaders are provided a slightly higher stipend than members at other sites, mostly because there is added responsibility with the position. Team Leaders receive a \$1560 monthly stipend (before taxes); have their own desks, computers and supplies; have access to a vehicle used solely by the WSP office; and access to all materials needed for camping and member support. You have the opportunity to strengthen and influence the direction of the program by providing valuable input and insight to staff members.

*Networking
Opportunities*

Team Leaders have the opportunity to meet local and regional officials who work with a variety of agencies and organizations, are consistently representing WSP, and work with a variety of natural resource professionals, teachers, landowners, corporations, and other community members. You never know who you will meet at the next community fair! The leadership, planning and organizational experience is invaluable and looks awesome on a resume!



Volunteer/Media Information

- What is an ISP?* Individual Service Projects (ISPs) are a great way to learn professional and personal development. ISPs are usually one day, hands-on watershed restoration work day involving community members. Although it is a requirement for each member to plan, prepare, organize and execute an ISP during their term of service, members often have a lot of fun with it! As the Outreach and Volunteer Team Leader, time will be offering support and help to members in WSP's Southern region as members complete their ISP. This involves editing press releases, public-service announcements media advisories and any other media outlets. In addition, the Team Leader will help recruit community volunteers by writing monthly volunteer e-Newsletter, updating the on-line Calendar of Events on the WSP website and maintaining the volunteer opportunities section of the website. Responsibilities may also include being involved in helping find a site or restoration project for members.
- Volunteer Recruitment* The Team Leader has the exciting task of attending many community functions to spread the volunteer word! Work directly and closely with all the team leaders, the Project Manager, the Project Director and WSP members to identify events and activities to recruit volunteers! Think outside the box and attend as many events and activities as possible and talk to members of the community, educational and natural resource students and professionals. Remember, just about anyone is a potential volunteer!
- Managing and Tracking ISP's and Volunteers* The Team Leader tracks and maintains all paperwork related to ISP's (proposals, media, summaries and volunteer sign-in sheets) for members. One of the most important resources is the new volunteer database. You will enter volunteers into the database, manage it and extract important information from the database.
- Closing note* The preceding is just a little taste of the main tasks involved. All the procedures for completing Team Leader tasks are outlined in a separate binder received upon the start of the position. This position is newer and constantly evolving, so have fun with it! This position allows creativity, attendance to a lot of fun events, networking, and meeting many friendly people.



Local Ecology

Climate

The City of San Luis Obispo is located in San Luis Obispo County, equidistant from San Francisco and Los Angeles, at just over 230 miles from each. The city lies about 10 miles due east of the coastline at Montana de Oro State Park, on the famous Central Coast of California. San Luis Obispo experiences typical of coastal weather with seasonal winter rains, coastal influenced fog, and a yearly temperature range of 42 - 82.

Native Plants

SLO County is home to a wide variety of habitat types and microclimates. Coastal regions tend to be particularly species rich in terms of both vegetation and wildlife. Even more astounding is the species richness in and around the Morro Bay Estuary, which provides unique habitat conditions for a variety plant species, many of which are rare, threatened, endangered, or otherwise protected.

Coastal Sage Scrub communities are common in the area, which support vegetative species such as Sagebrush, Coyote Bush, Seacliff Buckwheat, California Aster, and Sticky Monkey Flower. In some areas along the Central Coast, Coastal Chaparral communities out compete the scrub communities, which supports a range of plants more able to withstand high heat and drought. Toyon, Manzanita, Poison Oak, Scrub Oak, Black Sage, Chamise, and Yucca are common chaparral species.

Invasive Plants

Invasive plants are those that outcompete native species and take over the local ecosystems, often choking our creeks and contributing to the loss of sensitive and declining species (such as the steelhead!). San Luis Obispo County is no stranger to invasives. Some invasive plants include:

Arundo donax- absorbs huge amounts of water from our creeks, and easily reproduces/spreads from broken branches that float downstream.

English and Cape Ivy- an aggressive vine that competes for light and other resources with native plants.

Other invasive species known to occur in San Luis Obispo County include pampas grass, vinca, various thistle species, scotch broom, fennel, and Sacramento pikeminnow.

Animals

San Luis Obispo provides a great opportunity to observe wildlife, just keep your eyes open! Bi-tailed deer and wild turkeys are commonly spotted in or near any of our several Open Space areas, nature preserves open for recreation such as mountain biking and hiking. If you head down to the beach, sea otters and sea lions can often be spotted from shore, just past the break of the waves.

The first sign of an animal is often its tracks or scat. Look for evidence of:

Bobcats

Black bear

Mountain Lions

Turkey Vultures, Red Tail Hawks, Eagles, Osprey, Kites



Housing and Local Resources

Housing Contact List

<i>Location, location, location</i>	Affordable housing on an AmeriCorps living stipend is totally doable. San Luis Obispo, in general, is more expensive than Los Osos and other areas. San Luis Obispo and Arroyo Grande are popular towns and provide city-like amenities for the area. More rural towns in the area include Los Osos and Morro Bay. Atascadero, Pismo, and Oceano are other nearby options
<i>San Luis Obispo Craigslist</i>	http://sanluisobispo.craigslist.org/ This is probably your best bet.
<i>The Tribune Mustang Daily College Huts</i>	http://www.sanluisobispo.com/ http://www.mustangdaily.net/ http://collegehuts.com/
<i>Cal Poly's House Listing</i>	http://housing.calpoly.edu/offcampushousing/index.cfm Another great resource. The sources tend to be more reliable than Craigslist.
<i>Local Property Management Agencies</i>	Farrell Smyth Inc: (805) 543-2172 located at 21 Santa Rosa St, Suite 100 in SLO

Local Resource Contacts

<i>The Mustang Daily</i>	Free copies provided at multiple locations on Cal Poly campus: provides information about local deals and events. http://www.mustangdaily.net/
<i>The New Times</i>	Another resource for local happenings, events, news, and deals. Found at kiosks throughout San Luis Obispo County, particularly in the downtown area.
<i>San Luis Obispo Chamber of Commerce</i>	http://slochamber.org/cm/Home.html A complete guide to what to do and what to see while visiting San Luis Obispo County, as well as deals for locals on a variety of activities and events. 1039 Chorro St. San Luis Obispo, CA 93401 (805) 781-2777
<i>Cal Poly and Cuesta College</i>	Learn about student projects, current issues and concerns of the community, and possible involvement opportunities. http://www.calpoly.edu http://cuesta.edu



Community Information

Map of Area

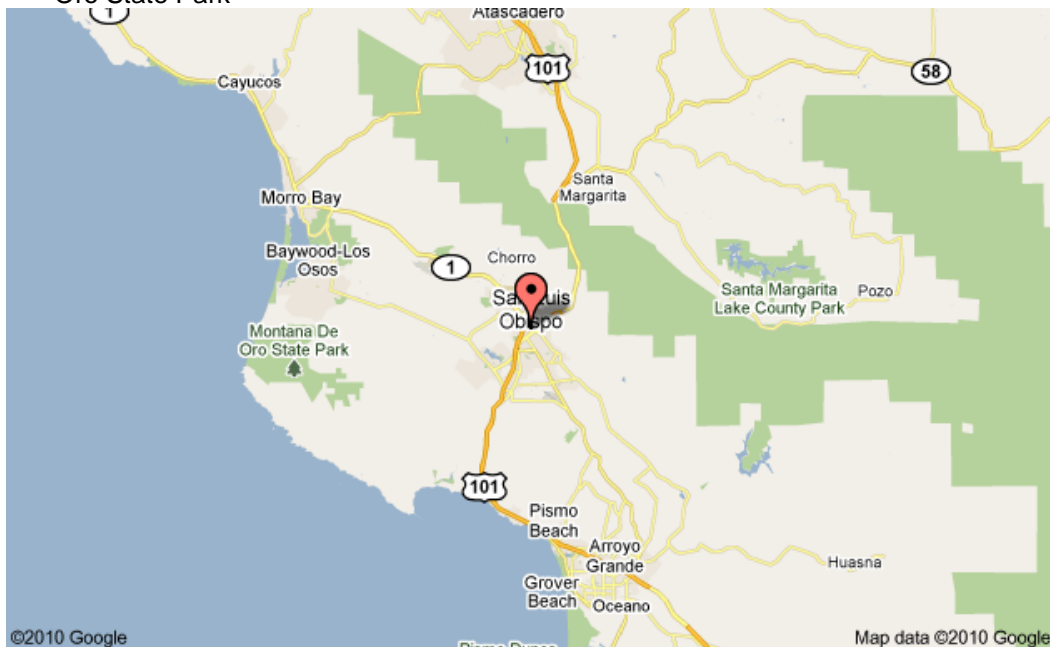
City of San Luis Obispo:

-Highway 1, Cal Poly Campus, Main Streets in town



County of San Luis Obispo:

-City of Morro Bay, Los Osos, San Luis Obispo, Arroyo Grande, Morro Bay estuary, Montana de Oro State Park





Community Demographics

San Luis Obispo is a city of just under 45,000 people with less than 20% representing minorities. The age structure of the population is relatively evenly spread out, with the college attracting a high percentage of 18-25 year olds, and the low-density coastal appeal of the area attracting both families and retirees. This balance creates a vibrant and robust array of activities and attractions within driving distance of the heart of San Luis Obispo.

Community Services

Getting in Touch

San Luis Obispo County prides itself on maintaining undeveloped greenspace areas, including a green belt around the city. A number of areas right in San Luis Obispo and within a five minute drive or a fifteen minute bike ride have been dedicated as open space areas for locals to utilize (and respect!) as a way to get outdoors, go for a hike, and connect with and appreciate nature. For more information about SLO's open space areas, visit <http://www.slocity.org/parksandrecreation/openspace>.

Transportation

The San Luis Obispo airport, while small, provides easy access to nearby major cities. Amtrak provides daily rail and bus route services through San Luis Obispo, to hundreds of locations throughout California. San Luis Obispo County encourages the use of public transit, offering an efficient and convenient bus system both for the city (SLO transit) and for the county (SLO Regional transit). Of course, biking is also encouraged! Locals are no stranger to sharing the road with bikers, as bike lanes are provided throughout the city. A new addition to San Luis Obispo is the "bike box", providing a clearly designated spot for bikers to safely share the road with vehicles at intersections.

Historical Sites

The Madonna Inn is a famous landmark, and worth at least a visit to see the eccentric interior decorations! Of course, the Mission San Luis Obispo de Tolosa is a sight to see, right at the heart of San Luis Obispo's vibrant downtown. Also among San Luis Obispo's historical buildings is the former San Luis Obispo Carnegie Library, located at 696 Monterey Street.



Entertainment and Community Events

Resources for Affordable Entertainment Options

Events

Refer to local publications (Mustang Daily, The Tribune, New Times) for information on local events and opportunities to get involved in the community. Ask locals or keep an eye out for listings. There are opportunities to volunteer and table for free or reduced admissions to festivals.

Supporting the Arts

San Luis Obispo is known for its support of the arts and often hosts events including art festivals, showcases, music in the park, and other gatherings at the historic Mission in downtown SLO. Information about upcoming events can be found in the local newspaper or on the Chamber of commerce website.

Recurring Event List

Farmer's Markets

Morro Bay, Los Osos, San Luis Obispo, and Avila have weekly farmer's markets that are open to the public. These markets not only represent an opportunity for entertainment and buying local goods, but also are good places to reach out to the community by tabling an event. SLO's popular market is every Thursday from 6-9pm on Higuera Street. There is also a new one that occurs on Saturday mornings from 8-10:30am in the Madonna Plaza. Los Osos hosts a farmer's market on Monday afternoons and Avila's is on Friday in the early evening.

Events and Activities

During Summer months, local residents and visitors congregate in the Mission Plaza for a free outdoor concert every Friday evening. The first Thursday of every month is Bike Nite in San Luis Obispo. People gather after the Farmer's Market at the Mission Plaza with their bikes and then go around on multiple circuits on the main streets of downtown- adhering to the traffic laws (for the most part)!

Shows and Concerts

The Christopher Cohen Performing Arts Center (PAC) hosts an array of shows and speakers from comedy performers, to concerts, to student groups and political speakers. A list of upcoming events at the PAC can be found through the Cal Poly website at www.calpoly.edu.

Community

Cal Poly's open house, Poly Royal, is held annually in April and represents a showcase of virtually every club, organization, and group affiliated with the campus. Even if you are not interested in getting involved in campus events and organizations (although the range of interests and opportunities is astounding), Poly Royal is a fun experience with lots of great food and student talent showcases.

Fairs

The Mid-State Fair is a major event that takes place at the fairgrounds in the city of Paso Robles every Spring. Other than typical fair events, such as carnival rides, 4H events, and food vendors, the California Mid-State Fair attracts a range of musical guests.